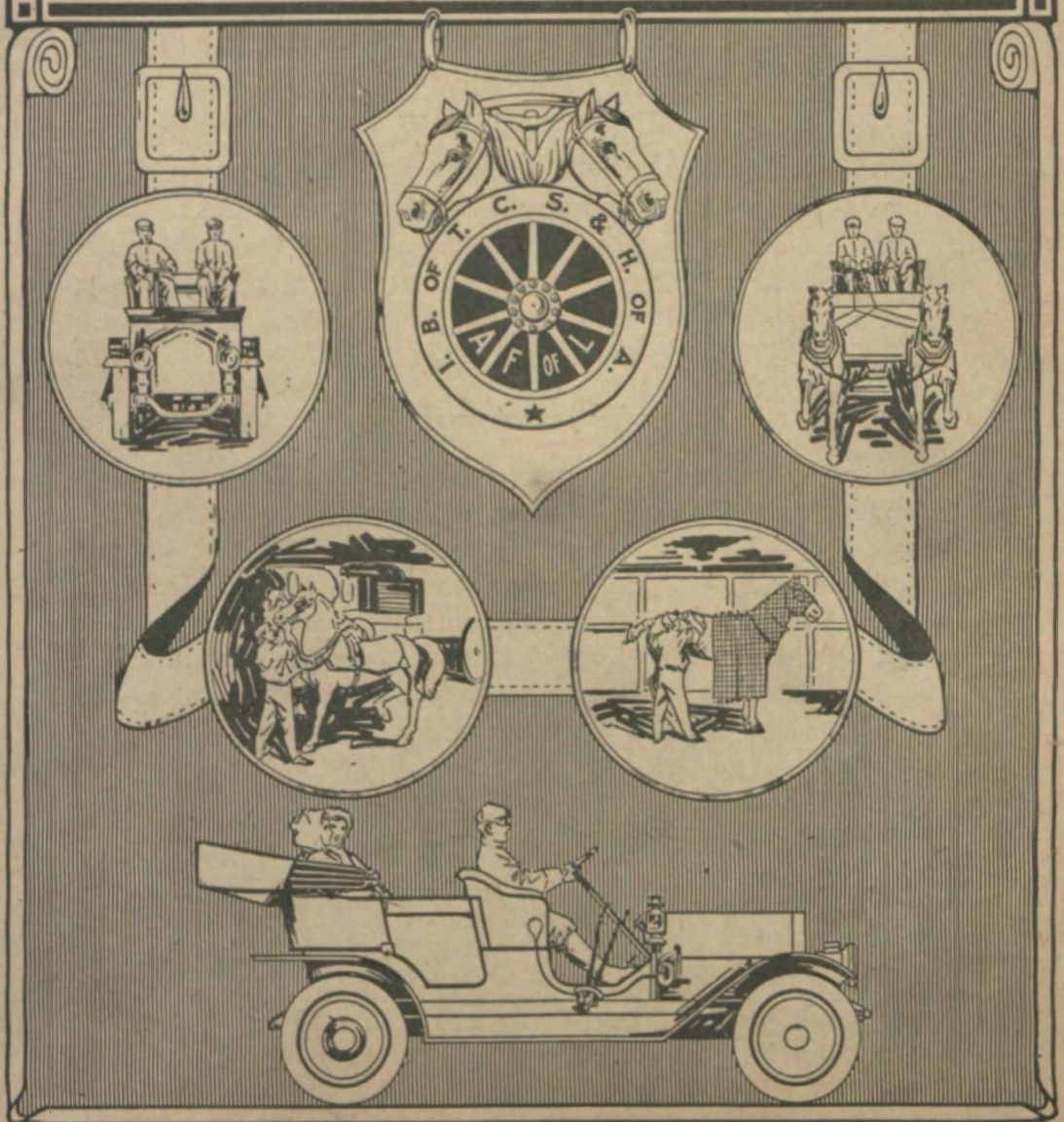


DECEMBER, 1917

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS · CHAUFFEURS
STABLEMEN AND HELPERS
OF AMERICA



The General President and the General Secretary-Treasurer will be absent from the office from November 11 to November 25, attending the sessions of the American Federation of Labor convention in Buffalo. All regular routine work will be taken care of in the office, but all matters of special interest, such as special questions on laws and decisions should be withheld, pending the return of the officers.

A few days ago, while in Chicago, I met Secretary-Treasurer and Business Agent Frank Ray of Local Union No. 703, Commission Wagon Drivers. He seemed highly pleased with the success of his organization, which, after a strike lasting two days, was successful in obtaining an increase in wages of about \$2.50 per week for each man. He spoke very encouragingly as to the future prospects of his local.

Over two hundred milk wagon drivers of Newark, N. J., have applied to the International for a charter, and the same has been granted. Success and god-speed to the men in the city of Newark. They will find before they are members one year the splendid results that can be derived from being a part of the great chain of labor organizations in our country, and will wonder why they remained outside the organization for so long. However, it is never too late to turn over a new leaf and we assure you that in the future the International will do everything in its power to assist you.

— OFFICIAL MAGAZINE — INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS·CHAUFFEURS ·STABLEMEN AND HELPERS·



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MR. PINCHOT'S ANSWER TO MR. KAHN REGARDING INCOME TAX



R. OTTO KAHN has quite often recently written many dignified articles in the New York Times against the policy of levying high

taxes on large incomes. Mr. Kahn is one of the richest bankers in New York. He claims that if we do in this country as they have done in England—levy heavy taxes on large incomes—that we will drive business to Canada. Mr. Amos Pinchot's answer to Mr. Kahn is worthy of notice:

"Now, although I do not share Mr. Kahn's exceedingly low opinion of the patriotism of American business men, I do not doubt his own patriotism. Notwithstanding the fact that it is only a few years ago since he proposed to renounce his American citizenship and become a British subject, and even went so far as to get nominated and actually start running for Parliament, I do not doubt Mr. Kahn's loyalty. But that is neither here nor there (as, indeed, one might have remarked of Mr. Kahn's citizenship at that time). Mr. Kahn is earnest, and so, no doubt, is Senator Simmons; but their minds work along business rather than human lines; and they cannot pull themselves out of their old rut of thought long

enough to realize that a war, in which a million or two Americans may perish and the vast majority of the population suffer economic distress, is a big human problem—big enough to even warrant us in asking business to work for something short of usurious interest; big enough also, to make decent business men entirely willing to do so.

"More effectively than any other prominent member of the business fraternity, Mr. Kahn has written against large war taxes, but there is in his reasoning (as in that of many rich men, some of them Senators and Congressmen) always an isolation from the human values of the situation. Let us illustrate: Since the war began Mr. Kahn has built himself an enormous Fifth avenue palace, costing several millions, and, on Long Island, he has constructed for his use perhaps the most magnificent country place in America, a subject of very just pride to the architect.

"Certainly there is nothing wrong or illegal about building Eighteenth Century palaces with 150 rooms and 30 bath rooms. Although the ladies' auxiliary defense committees might possibly be justified in sending notices to the rich asking them not to build palaces at the same time that they send bulletins to the poor telling them not to overeat. But I do not believe any man could do this who felt what the war meant to the people. No doubt, it gives work to thousands, though work unproductive of the things we need in war. Yet the fact that thousands of school children a few miles away in New York are unable to maintain their grades on account of malnutrition, the fact that the cost of living has gone up 80 per cent. since the war began, while wages have risen less than 20 per cent., and the further fact that a people, already attacked by the advance guard of war-misery, must

feed themselves while they fight Germany; these things, I say, make it evident that one must have a certain degree of detachment from the realities of the case in order to choose this as the appropriate moment to fight war taxes on wealth, and at the same time introduce into the United States a scale of luxurious living unequalled since pre-revolutionary days in France.

—High Prices Due to Price Fixing—

"The New York World points out that the apoplectic earnings of the U. S. Steel Corporation are not due to enormous production either. They are due to deliberate jacking up of prices to an artificial level. In 1913 the price of billets at Pittsburgh was \$26.50, in 1916 \$42 and in the middle of this year \$100. In 1913 plates were \$33.60, in 1916 they were \$73 and in 1917, \$200.

"Nor is it labor charges that have caused these rises, for from 1913 to 1916 total labor charges of this company went up from \$207,000,000 to \$263,000,000, or 27 per cent.; while the price of billets went up over 50 per cent. and the price of plates over 117 per cent. The labor charge figures for 1917 are not available. Putting it in another way, for every dollar of the corporation's earnings that went to the employees in 1913, the amount that went to the employees in 1916 was \$1.27. But for every dollar that went to the stockholders in 1913 for dividends and surplus, the amount that went to the stockholders in 1916 was \$3.34. It has been the swift taking advantage of the war and of the public necessity caused by it that has swollen the profits of this corporation and scores of other great industrial combinations whose earnings have been still more excessive. Within eleven weeks from America's declaration of war our patriotic steel producers advanced the price of billets by \$25, an amount about

equal to the total price of billets four years ago. If this is not a bid for labor troubles, I would like to know what is.

"Of course, the public need not be reminded that to advance the price of steel or iron, or any such basic necessity of civilization, is to advance the cost of living. It makes farming, building, transportation, manufacturing and all branches of industry more expensive. It is as effective, though less direct, a way,

of rendering it harder for the average family to live in war times, as it would be for J. P. Morgan & Co., Mr. Gary and Mr. Schwab to corner the supply of every necessity of existence and arbitrarily raise the prices. If it would be unpatriotic for them to raise the cost of living in war times by direct and visible action of this kind, is it patriotic for them to accomplish the same thing by less direct, less visible, but equally effective action?"

THE STRIKE-BREAKER



VERY clear exposition of the character of the strike-breaker is disclosed in an article in the Kansas City Post of August 14. The reporter of the

Post who trailed the strike-breakers from Kansas City to St. Louis on their return trip from the Kansas City street railway lockout, is authority that the strike-breakers were supplied by the Berghoff & Waddell "detective" agency, the New York strike-breaking contractors. There were 700 of them.

A representative strike-breaker characterized by the reporter is one Eddie Costello, who, it is alleged, is widely known on the East Side in New York City as a fearless gunman and one of the distinguished "Costello Gang." The strike-breakers were brought to Kansas City by Leo Berghoff, who, as the reporter states, "was given a contract by the street railway company to restore service."

Said one of the gang to the reporter: "When we go on a strike-breaking job we free lance it. Those of us who act as conductors keep all the fares and every night divide equal shares with the ones who are detailed as motormen or are kept at the barns or put on riding cars with clubs to protect crews.

"Berghoff insists that we turn in 10 cents a day to the company. That's all. The rest of what we collect is ours. We never take transfers. If a passenger tries to slip us a transfer he either gets off before the car stops or he gets a clout on the head with a club. Once one of the men in the New York tramway strike, just settled, turned in to the company 50 cents after taking a fifty-dollar run down Broadway. We nearly killed that guy when we found out he was spoiling the business.

"Twenty-five per cent. of what we collect always goes to Berghoff's lieutenants. They make the company show its books so as to check up on what we ought to collect off of every run—that's the way the game is run."

"Up in Seattle," said J. C. Cooper, one of the strike-breakers, to the Post reporter, "we had rich pick-in's. Every time our cars came to the bottom of one of those steep Seattle hills, we stopped and collected an extra nickel from all of the passengers. They paid or got off. And if they didn't pay and kicked about getting off we threw 'em off. We made on an average \$50 a day apiece out of the Seattle strike. The company finally gave in to its men and put them back. Berghoff told us in New York he made \$600,000 out of that strike."

Another strike-breaker, fifty years old, told the reporter of the prosperity of strike-breakers when they get a job like they thought Kansas City would give them. When he had finished telling how he had made \$1,500 in the New York strike, the reporter states: "He proved his boast by pulling out of a greasy pocketbook two Liberty Bond receipts, one for \$500 and one for \$1,000." This strike-breaker, who gave his name as J. C. Marley and his home as 126 W. 42d street, New York, said: "That's what the New York strike made me in three weeks." This man is authority that the Costello gang, of which the said Eddie Costello is a member, is right next door to 126 W. 42d street.

It was the thug and gunman tactics of the Waddell bunch in Kansas City that proved their undoing. They were too free with the gun and club work and were corralled by the Kansas City police and shipped out of town as criminals, many of whom had already committed crimes in the short time of their sojourn there. The common tenor of the professions of such of the strike-breakers as were consulted by the Post reporter, showed that those whose interviews are above quoted were typical of the entire gang, most of whom were from New York City, while others had been gathered in Chicago and St. Louis. They represent the class of "patriotic, honest workingmen" whose protection in the indulgence of "American principles," the open shop is exploited. They are the high-grade citizens that union-smashing "open-shop" employers are pleased to inject into communities to maintain their industrial kaiserism. — Motorman and Conductor.

The strength of the organized labor movement and the wisdom of its course has had no better proof than the agreement entered into

between the government and the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, by which all work on army cantonments is done by union labor.

Under the terms of the agreement not only the carpenters must be organized workers, but all other labor on these big jobs must be organized.

This is one of the most sweeping labor agreements ever entered into and one of the most important. It marks out the policy of the government and the policy of labor unmistakably and to the credit of the nation and the labor movement.

A TALK WITH MR. BURLESON

The Public of New York prints this week an interview with Postmaster-General Burleson by Geo. P. West, one of its editors. The article follows, in part:

"What some of us fear," I said, "is that officials of this department will let a class prejudice against radical publications influence them, and that the movement for economic democracy will suffer because of it. What I should like to see is for you to suppress Colonel Roosevelt's articles charging broomstick preparedness. They certainly give aid and comfort to the enemy."

"What he says is not true," said Mr. Burleson, "but I don't think it would affect the morale or fighting spirit of our soldiers. As for the others, we shall not permit them to say that this war was brought on by Wall street and that the President is a tool of the interests. This administration has done more for labor than any other. We have given them all they ought to have. Mind you, I don't think they have got anything they weren't entitled to, except that we should have enacted a compulsory arbitration law. I believe in compulsory arbitration."

"No man has any more sympathy

than I have for the poor fellow bent over working with a pick for \$1.50 a day. I'll do all I can to lighten that man's burdens. But when he takes up the torch or the bomb—"

Again Mr. Burleson's fist came down on the table.

"Give him a show for his white alley and he'll have no inclination to," I suggested.

"Mr. West," said the Postmaster-General kindly, "do you know why that man can't make more money? It's up here," and he pointed to his forehead. "It's the shape of his brain. It's fatality. God Almighty did that, and you can't change it. You're challenging Providence. Distribute all the wealth in the country with absolute equality, and what would happen within a year? It would all be back in the same hands."

"Let's waive the question of grown-up men," I said, "and take children. They at least ought to have equal opportunity."

"Do you mean to tell me," said Mr. Burleson, "that the child of the poorest farmer or the poorest factory hand in New England hasn't just as good a chance to go to school and get an education and become a bank director or a railroad president as J. P. Morgan?"

"I certainly do," I said. "Very few finish grammar school. Take your Bureau of Labor Statistics. Take the report of your Public Health Service, which shows that less than half of the adult male wage earners in this country were earning enough to support their families in decency and comfort."

"It's their own fault," said Mr. Burleson. "It's their own fault. This is the freest and finest country God ever made. Your quarrel is with God. You have a perverted view of these things. If that's the stuff you're preaching, I think you're probably doing more harm than good."

"God never intended that a man

should be allowed to grow rich just from the ownership of land that others worked," I suggested.

Mr. Burleson chuckled.

"As a land owner, you can't expect me to believe that," he said.

"Take your own State of Texas," I said. "The hearings and report of the Walsh commission on tenant farming—"

"That was the most vicious and untrue document ever published," said Mr. Burleson, very much aroused. "If the rest of that report was like that part of it, the whole thing was vicious. The people don't get on the land because they like to stay in town where the lights are bright and they can go to the movies. Take two twin brothers. One succeeds and the other doesn't. One saves his money and works hard—the other must go to the movies every night and the opera every week, and at fifty he has nothing. It's a difference in people that you can't change. It's fatality."

GOOD ADVICE

A trade union is like a bank. If you expect to get anything out of it you must put something into it. No union can honor the drafts of a member on its support, its confidence and its moral backing unless that member gives to the union his support. The union run on any other principle goes bankrupt. The blindness of many men to these elementary principles accounts for the weakness of many locals and for the indifference of many who are or have been nominally union men. These men want to reverse all the laws of nature and of business—to keep getting forever and to give never. They want the union to stand by them in their demands, to assist them in sickness and to defend them in difficulties, and when the union fails to do this they never

(Continued on page 11)

EDITORIAL

(By Daniel J. Tobin.)

THERE is nothing more detestable than the thought, or to hear it said, that the local business agent or representative of our union has accepted a bribe, except, perhaps, the thought or the proof that an employer has offered a bribe. Of the two crimes, the latter is the greater. The employer that expects to be successful permanently by attempting to bribe a business agent is criminally mistaken. He is the lowest kind of a culprit who offers a bribe to the representative of a union. Words cannot describe the filthy condition of mind, the contemptible character of the business agent or representative of the union who betrays the confidence of the men who elected him and sells any rights or privileges to a contemptible employer who is willing to pay a certain sum of money for such a privilege. There was never any Judas that figured in history, not even the original Judas, that can compare with the scoundrel elected to office who goes to an employer and requests, directly or indirectly, a sum of money for certain privileges or for the fixing up of a wage scale. We are glad to say that such monsters are few in the labor movement, but wherever one is found, wherever it is proved one exists or holds office, he should be regarded as the lowest kind of leper, not fit to associate even with Harry Orchard, McManigal, or the other scoundrels in the labor movement whom we have read about, who turned traitor to their fellowmen. The money they receive in this way never seems to do them any good, as the old saying is still true, "Easy got, easy gone." Men of this character who accept money from employers for privileges of any kind are degenerates of the lowest kind. The employer that offers money or is forced to give money is placing around his own neck a rope that will some day strangle him and those he represents, because if a crooked business agent ever gets an employer in his power he will never let loose. If by any chance an employer should read this article we warn him to beware doing business with any man who suggests the payment of money for services rendered. If it is ever proved that any representative of our union accepts one dollar from any employer for services rendered, he will be expelled immediately from our International. We pride ourselves on the fact that we run a labor institution for the benefit of the rank and file. We have been successful because we have been honest, and we intend to continue in that straight and narrow path. One hundred per cent. of our membership and the officers of our locals are honest, law-abiding, decent, God-fearing trade unionists, but every now and then we hear rumors that lead us to think that perhaps one of these crooked articles has crept into our ranks. We request our membership, after they have read this article, to look around them and rejoice at the fact that our union is clean, free from men of this kind; free from the kind of buzzard that lives on the carcasses of his fellowmen. We want our membership to realize that the International Union is keeping in close touch with the actions of every business agent within its jurisdiction. There is no need for our membership to become suspicious, because our unions are beyond suspicion, but in case anything should happen that is not exactly right, report same to the General Office im-

mediately. You may rest assured that the International organization will never rest until it runs out of its membership any man we find to be dishonest; any man we find who has ever requested or received money or favors from an employer, because he is betraying the union. There is only one way to prosper and that is to be clean both on the inside and on the outside. Honesty, truthfulness, fair-dealing is the best policy. If they betray those who have elected them to represent them in office, then their success will only last for a few moments. Their actions will in time bring about their own punishment. In the history of our organization men with brains have passed into nothingness because they were not honest. The same is true today, and to the officers of our unions we say, serve your union faithfully and honestly, guarding their interest as you would your life. They have trusted you by electing you to office, the greatest honor they could confer on you. Never do anything to stain your name or which will cause the finger of suspicion to be pointed at your actions. Remember if you are honest you will last for all time and your good name can never be destroyed. Remember, if you are dishonest you will last only for a short time.

THE State Federation of Labor of California passed a resolution, by an almost unanimous vote, expressing confidence in the integrity and patriotism of Senator LaFollette. We rejoice at the action of the California State Federation of Labor. Senator LaFollette may be somewhat outspoken, but he has not acquired that quality since the war. Ever since he became a public man he has been the same LaFollette, always ready to express his opinion, not allowing any man, or set of men, to stifle his expressions or his thoughts. All this talk about expelling him from the United States Senate is ridiculous. The time surely has not come in this country when a man who has the courage of expressing himself, even though he disagrees with the government, is going to be charged with being a traitor and threatened with expulsion. This would be a dangerous proceeding, and if such a precedent is established it will not be many years until labor leaders and organizers will be legislated out of existence or incarcerated in prisons or penitentiaries. It is not treason to disagree with our government, now nor at any time in the past history of the nation. Honest disagreement is justified. The government is supposed to be only the mouthpiece of the people. The placing of a muzzle over the mouth of LaFollette because in his honest judgment some of the acts of the government are not to his liking, is, to say the least, uncalled for. It was only a short time ago that Senator LaFollette championed the Seamen's bill, and he was then pointed at as being an enemy of our nation because he had the courage to fight for the downtrodden seamen and fight for them until he had won, although there were a great many prominent members of the government that disagreed with him. He has always been the champion of labor legislation in the Senate. When no one else would look on you with friendliness because you were a labor man, or because you were advocating something in behalf of labor, you could always rely upon Senator LaFollette looking with favor, on any request, and those things should not be forgotten by the masses of working people. Even though we cannot agree with him on the stand he has taken since the war broke out, he is at least entitled to the right of expressing himself as a free American citizen. He has not done anything illegal and should not be called a traitor. If he has done anything that is contrary

to our laws, of course he is subject to the law. But, to be run out of the Senate, branded as a traitor, because he has expressed himself as his conscience dictates, is entirely unnecessary and uncalled for. In all the serious conflicts which our nation has experienced, men of importance have disagreed with the actions of the government. Even in the days of Washington men absolutely disagreed with him and with his actions. Many of Lincoln's cabinet members disagreed with him, but they were not called traitors; were not treated with suspicion; they did not hang them in effigy on the several streets of our cities throughout the country. No, the people want men in public office to disagree with the majority so that both sides of the case may be heard. The trade unionists of the country are loyal to the government. Within the ranks of the trade unions a traitor to our country is looked upon as a traitor to his union, or like the man who goes out against his union during a strike. There is no place within our fold for disloyalty or treachery to our country, but the trade unionists of the country also demand the right of expression, honest expression of thought, by its membership and by men in public office who are elected to serve the whole country. As stated above, we rejoice at the actions of the convention of the California State Federation in expressing confidence in the honesty, sincerity and patriotism of Senator Robert LaFollette.

BELOW is an agreement which was made and entered into by and between our International Executive Board, representatives of the Truck Drivers' Union affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs, representatives from the Joint Council and the representatives of the Chicago teamsters' organization. There were also present during the discussion representatives from the Cartage Club of Chicago, an organization holding in membership nearly all of the team owners in Chicago.

The reason for holding this discussion was to avoid any disturbance that might arise or any wrangling that might take place owing to the question of jurisdiction lines between the two organizations. We are glad to say at this time that after one year and nine months, during which time this agreement has been in operation, that very few misunderstandings have arisen and no trouble has taken place that it has not been possible to straighten out.

We hope and trust for the interest of all parties concerned that this same peaceful condition will prevail in the future. There is nothing in having two organizations battling against one another; only injury can obtain for the representatives and membership of both organizations. One organization might succeed today, the other tomorrow, and this condition might prevail for some time, but eventually those responsible for the disturbance would undoubtedly be eliminated. As stated above, the fact that the two organizations came together in this manner has resulted in great good for all. If we cannot get along together in one organization, let us, at least, maintain peace and harmony as much as possible until such time as we find ourselves working under one grand organization of Teamsters and Chauffeurs. This is the only spirit that should prevail. This is the feeling that should prompt every officer of our union and of the other union in Chicago. We publish this agreement now to remind those who have entered into it of the sacredness of this contract. No misunderstanding should take place now, espe-

cially when our country is engaged in a life and death struggle with a foreign foe. Any man in the labor movement with a drop of American blood in his veins that brings about any serious disturbance in business is a criminal not only against society, but against his own country and the civilization of the world. Especially is this true when many of our members are on their way to the battlefields in Europe to offer up their blood in sacrifice so that we may have freedom, and justice, and peace in our beloved country:

MEETING OF GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
AND
THE CHICAGO TEAMSTERS' REPRESENTATIVES.

Conference and agreement entered into and agreed to between representatives of Chicago Teamsters' Local No. 705 and representatives of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local Union No. 705, that we, the representatives of Local No. 705 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and the representatives of Local No. 705 of the Chicago Teamsters' Organization, do hereby agree that in the interest of peace and as true trade unionists—

First: Not to interfere with the men employed in the barns and garages of the other union; namely, 705 of the opposite organization; that is, we will not seek, or encourage, or admit, to membership in our union the men employed in the barns and garages now controlled by the opposite union, No. 705. That we will not claim jurisdiction over any barn or garage where there are men now members of the opposite union, No. 705.

Second: That we will try to promote harmony in our respective unions, using every means in our power to establish peace and good-will.

Third: We agree that in case something arises on which the representatives of our respective locals cannot reach an agreement, that a committee of six be appointed—three from the Council of each organization, who are not to be members of either of the Local Unions 705, to which shall be referred all questions in dispute which we cannot settle ourselves; that in case this committee of six fail to agree on the question submitted, that they have the power to name a seventh man, who shall name an arbiter within a reasonable time, and this arbiter shall have the entire subject-matter referred to him, and his decision shall be final and binding on both parties to this agreement. Pending the decision of the arbiter, no disturbance of any kind shall take place.

Representing International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs,
MICHAEL CASEY.

Representing Chicago Teamsters' Organization,
JOHN SHERIDAN.

WE have just recently obtained information from New York, through Vice-President Cashal, that our Milk Wagon Drivers' Union, No. 584, has been successful in winning a strike against the Borden Milk Company. The men in the employ of the Borden Company of New York were out on strike for three days before a settlement was reached. A complete settlement has been obtained, which embodies

the union shop. In other words, none but members of our union can be employed by this concern in greater New York in the future.

We rejoice at this splendid victory—first, because it will be of material benefit to our membership in New York, and second, because we received the lowest, meanest, most contemptible double-cross from the Borden officials that was ever handed to labor officials. We refused to publish the story at the time because the case was so rotten and the promises made by the Borden officials were so deliberately broken that we were afraid if our membership in Chicago, employed by the Borden concern, were to read all the facts in the case they would undoubtedly insist on punishing that Company by going out on strike in Chicago, thereby breaking their agreement, and this condition we did not desire to have prevail at the time, but as long as we live, the experience we obtained will be of material help to us in so far as making us guard against individuals of this kind in the future. Never again for us will we trust to the sacred and binding promises of an employer when we have an opportunity to organize his men. The cruel part of this, however, is that some honest, fair employer will be regarded with suspicion, due to the actions of this vice-president and general manager of the Borden concern. You can not blame men, union men, for treating with suspicion all employers, when we experience something like what happened to our International Union in New York about a year ago. The principal official of the Borden company made a solemn and binding pledge and agreement with the officials of our International Union, which was that he would sign up the same agreement in New York as was signed by the company in Chicago. He said to leave it all in his hands and he would see to it that the men would become members of our organization. At that time we had a very small per cent. of the Borden drivers in our organization, but the time was ripe for proceeding toward bringing the men into the union.

This official has since retired from active duty in connection with the Borden company. When the time came for him to put his promise into effect, he not only failed to do so, but he also forbid any man who was a member of our union wearing the emblem of our organization. He worked distinctly against us, fighting organization of any kind, and then said to us that we would have to abide by the result, which, of course, was true, but, just imagine the feelings of our officers to have an employer of his standing deliberately break his solemn promise, thereby destroying the efforts we had already made toward organizing the milk wagon drivers in New York. But, believe the writer, when he says to you that while we felt this bitter experience very keenly, we never intended to forget that we were double-crossed; that we were betrayed. We made up our mind that if we lived there would be a day of reckoning. The local officials in New York City, with the assistance of Organizer Cashal, kept on organizing in and around Borden's, gradually getting the men into the union until one beautiful morning not long ago the men decided to strike, and did strike. Several overtures and promises were immediately made by the Borden officials, but no notice was taken of those promises, as the officers of our union said, you broke your promises to us once and you will never have an opportunity of doing so again. A settlement was reached, the main points agreed to and a few small matters left to arbitration. Is there any reason why we in the International should not rejoice at the success of our local in New York?

Talk about labor men not keeping their word, or breaking their

promises. In all the history of the labor movement, and the writer has had some experience, there was never a more contemptible double-cross handed out than that handed out by the Borden Company to our officers. It is not any wonder that labor representatives lose confidence in employers. The very largest employers are sometimes the most dishonorable. Sometimes unions are made to hate all employers as a result of the actions of one crooked one. Now, that a settlement has been reached, we will endeavor to forget the past and work in harmony with the milk distributors in New York to the end that the public may be served and our own interest as well as the interest of the employer properly preserved.

Central labor unions in many districts assume authority that they have no right to assume, especially in ordering on strike local unions affiliated with them, or insisting on the settlement of wage scales without the consent of the proper authority. Section 9 of the constitution of the American Federation of Labor reads as follows:

"No central body shall take part in the adjustment of wage contracts, wage disputes or working rules of local unions, affiliated with a National or International Union, unless the laws of the National or International Union permit, except upon the request or consent of the executive officer of the National or International Union affected."

We publish this for the information of our membership throughout the country, and while great credit is due central bodies for the amount of good they do in many districts, at the same time there are a few instances where they overstep their authority, especially in ordering local unions on strike in sympathy with other trades affected.

GOOD ADVICE

(Continued from page 5)

stop to ask whether they are entitled from what they have put into the union to the help they ask at its hands. If you wish the maximum return on your investment in organized labor, choose that investment wisely in all its parts. Give it your financial help—not grudgingly when your card is due, but gladly and generously when it must make a special appeal. Give it your moral support always—not as though its officers were seeking to take an unfair advantage of their position, but freely and frankly, as fellow craftsmen. Give it your constant encouragement—not merely on the floor of the meeting room, but in the shop, theater and among

non-union men. The poorest advertising organized labor gets is from its dissatisfied members. Give your union your presence and your counsel—not alone when the delegates to the convention are chosen or the little "plums" are awarded, but in the transaction of all its business. There are few "plums" in the labor movement, as any officer of any local will tell you, but it is hard to make the rank and file believe this. Give the union the same loyal faith you give your wife or your church, remembering that to some men you are a mirror of organized labor and that labor will be judged by you. The man who has not faith in a brotherhood to which he belongs is potentially a traitor to it.—The Plasterer.

CORRESPONDENCE



SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother:—The much-mooted question of jurisdiction, and the benefits to be derived, has been fully satisfied in the minds of the bakery wagon drivers' of San Francisco.

Last November, 1916, when we decided for ourselves that we were entitled to some improved working conditions in our craft, we found the same old petty jealousy and official differences existing in the bakers' union and our local. Therefore, many of our members who would never otherwise have accepted the argument for affiliation with the Brotherhood of Teamsters, were forced to choose between the half-hearted disposition of the local joint board of bakery workers to deny us our rights, and the open willingness of the local teamsters' organizations to support us and our just demands.

We decided to cast our lot with the brotherhood, and with less than two hundred good-standing members, discouraged by corrupt and dishonest officials of the old regime, we made our demands; adding \$4.00 per week to our minimum, took an hour off the day's work; gained daylight work and six additional holidays with pay. Today we have a membership of 275 full of "pep" and confidence to make our local the best in this vicinity. Many of the boys thought it could not be done—now they think we have not done enough. That is how we feel about our friends—the Brotherhood of Teamsters. Fraternally yours,

GEO. G. KIDWELL,
Sec-Treas., Local No. 484.

Note—The above local union in San Francisco is composed of bakery wagon drivers. For a number of years this local was affiliated with the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union. After the convention of the American Federation of Labor rendered its decision this local severed its connection, as per the decision, with the Bakery Workers' International Union and affiliated with our International.

The argument had always been made by the Bakery Workers' International Union that greater benefits could be obtained for the drivers if they would affiliate with the Bakers' International Union. We contended and have proved conclusively that this is not so; that the bakery wagon drivers' unions affiliated with our International have splendid working conditions, averaging, in many instances, a wage much higher than mechanics and tradesmen in many classes in the locality in which they are working. In Chicago alone the wage scale for the 800 members of Local No. 734, Bakery Wagon Drivers, is about \$30.00 per week.—Ed.

MONTREAL, CANADA

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I am writing these lines to tell you and the rest of our local unions throughout the country that Local No. 681 of Montreal is struggling on and gaining. It gives me great pleasure to say that the bakery drivers and their helpers in this city are beginning to realize the need of organization. At our last meeting in the Labor Temple we had a very enthusiastic group of

teamsters and they take great interest in organization for the cause of success.

Wishing you and the rest of our members success, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

ARTHUR BIRON,

Secretary L. U. No. 681.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—Max Goldstein of 914 Myrtle avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., while a member of Local 273, worked for the firm of H. Bock & Son of Brooklyn while this union was conducting a strike against the said firm.

The executive board, sitting as a trial board, found Goldstein guilty, as charged, and placed a fine of \$500 on him.

Fraternally,

J. J. McKENNA,

Sec.-Treas. L. U. 273.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—A few lines from Chauffeurs and Carriage Drivers' Local 405 to inform you that we are slowly progressing. Last month our local, thanks to the good work of our business agent, Chas. R. Anderson, ably assisted by Seventh Vice-President D. J. Murphy of the International; Thos. E. Coyne, president of the teamsters' joint council, and David Kreyling, secretary of the C. T. L. U., signed up with our local the Yellow Taxi Cab Company of St. Louis. There are yellow taxi cab companies in several of the large cities of the United States, but the St. Louis Taxi Cab Company is the only one which is unionized. We are pleased to report that through the good will of the majority of the employees this was accomplished without trouble, and we are glad to welcome them into our union.

We have lost a number of our

members through the draft and other causes, but we feel sure those of our members who have given their services to our beloved country will prove a credit to our union and do their full duty to their country.

With best wishes for the prosperity of the International and kindest regards for yourself and its officers, I am,

Fraternally yours,

HARRY J. HUNT,

Sec.-Treas., Local 405.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—This is to notify you and all affiliated locals of the expulsion from membership of Thos. F. Barr, who was duly tried and found guilty of violating the constitution as well as the by-laws of Local 603.

Barr, who was at one time business agent, was proven guilty of trying to abolish the established working agreement and wage scale of our organization and, sorry to say, he was successful in obtaining a half dozen signatures to a resolution of that nature.

The board decided he was either a paid agent or a lunatic, and, as there is no room in the labor movement for either, was unanimous in expelling him. He appealed to the council, where the action of Local 603 was sustained, which aroused the sympathy of our deaf, dumb and blind members, who never attend meetings and do not know what is going on around them. They are like the letter "P," first in pity but last in help.

Nevertheless Local 603 is in excellent condition and holding its own.

With best wishes and kindest regards, I remain,

Yours fraternally,

H. R. NORMAN, Sec.-Treas.

TORONTO, CANADA

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I was instructed by our local, at its meeting held November 15, to convey to you the following information:

For some time past I have been endeavoring to secure a readjustment of the wage scale on account of the increased cost of living. The negotiations with the City Dairy Company and S. Price & Sons, Ltd., resulted in a promise from them to grant a slight increase on November 1. On this date, however, they asked for a committee to meet them, which was done, the result of which was an offer from the company of \$15.00 and 2½% commission on all sales, with a minimum rate of \$20.00 and \$21.00 for wholesale wages, with an additional \$1.00 added for suburban routes. This was submitted to a meeting of our local and by a 75% vote, regularly taken, it was decided to agree to that scale till November 1, 1918. The agreement to that effect has since been signed up and went into effect November 18, 1917.

We would ask your endorsement of our action in this matter, which means a raise of \$3.00 per week on an average, through peaceful negotiations.

With best wishes, I am,

Faternally yours,

R. A. COX,

Business Agent, Local 191.

MAINTENANCE OF PROTECTIVE STANDARDS DEMANDED AT LABOR CONVENTION

Tumultuous applause greeted the declaration of several speakers at the annual convention of the New York State Federation of Labor that protective standards for labor must be maintained during war time as a prime essential of national effectiveness, and that de-

mocracy must be safeguarded in the United States.

"If we are to gain our real measure of efficiency," said Governor Whitman, "we must not permit our people who are engaged in industrial pursuits to become apprehensive that the standards erected for their protection will be set aside."

Samuel Gompers asserted that he had been a life-long pacifist but is supporting the government in this war because "the gauntlet had been thrown down to democracy" and unless the challenge was accepted, autocracy would run rough-shod over the peoples of the whole world. "During the war," he said, "I propose to see to it as best I can that the standards of the American workers do not deteriorate."

"We are in this war, and as red-blooded Americans we are in it to win," said John B. Andrews, secretary of the American Association for Labor Legislation, speaking upon invitation of the federation, "but it would be a costly mistake to break down any of the hard-won protections for labor. While fighting to make the world safe for democracy we must not sacrifice democracy here at home."

John Mitchell, chairman of the New York State Industrial Commission, announced the determination of the commission to uphold protective labor laws in war as well as in peace. "National strength depends upon the fitness of our industrial army," he said, "quite as much as upon the fighting forces."

Recent victories were reported in many States in saving labor laws against attempts to suspend them, and it was announced that this campaign, temporarily successful, would be continued vigorously.—Carpenter.

To work patiently in faith and love, to do, not what we like, but what we revere, confers not liberty only, but power.—J. Martineau.

MISCELLANY



"CAN'T-STRIKE" PLAN IS URGED BY EMPLOYERS

Organized employers informed the council of national defense that they are "interested in the abolishment of strikes," and suggested that their latest plan be submitted by the council to the trade union movement.

It is the old system—ask all and give nothing, with their pet scheme—compulsory arbitration—carefully kept in the background, for the time being.

The proposal was submitted to the council of national defense by a national industrial conference board of 150 members, representing sixteen manufacturing associations.

The employers favor no modification of present safety or health standards during the war period except upon recommendation of the council of national defense. Wages shall be the standard prevailing locally at the beginning of the war except where it has been "demonstrated" that increases are necessary to meet higher living costs. This clause would indicate that some employers have their doubts about old General High Cost of Living.

Hours are not to be changed except on the word of the council of national defense when "it is necessary to meet the requirements of the government."

All union shop agitation is to be tabooed under the new system. The employers refer to the union shop as "closed shop."

A board consisting of representative employers and the government will be created and this board is to be given sweeping authority: "With full power to create all ma-

chinery necessary to exercise its functions."

And in the meantime they are waiting for labor to accept salvation by the compulsory arbitration route.

Note: From the foregoing it is evident the employers of the country want to reap profits at the expense of the workers.

To their way of thinking we must work under any conditions without complaint or murmur and without the right to stop work when things become unbearable.

Yet "profiteering" on their part goes merrily on.

Because they got contracts from the government to do certain kinds of war work, they pose as patriots.

They, however, are not doing this work at a loss; they must have their profits, but the poor workers must remain silent while food, clothing, fuel, rent and all the necessities of life are soaring so high that it is next to an impossibility for them to live.

The U. B. reserves the right to strike for better conditions whenever necessary and we refuse to give anyone else the right to speak for us in such cases.

We are patriotic American citizens, ready and willing at all times to do our duty when called upon, but we want to be treated as human beings and not as slaves.

We don't propose that profiteering shall continue at our expense. We are willing to do our bit even to the extent of sacrificing our lives in defense of our country, and as proof of this we just want to say that thousands of our members are now in the army and navy and thousands of others are working on war emergency work for the government; in cantonments, aviation

fields and shipyards. We can't let a proposition preventing us from striking pass unnoticed without protest.

CONCERNING THE I. W. W.

In discussing the recent deportation of Arizona workers in the American Federationist President Gompers gives this logical answer to the question, "Why the I. W. W.?"

"The responsibility for the existence of the I. W. W. movement lies with those employers who have rejected and ruthlessly opposed collective bargaining and who have denied their employes the right to further their interests in a normal, constructive manner.

"It is impossible to kill in human beings the desire and the ambition to aspire to something better. Indeed, it would be deplorable if that desire could be killed. When employers seek to prevent a natural outlet for this desire they provoke violence and disruption. The I. W. W. movement is a creation of economic despots and financial anarchists who oppose constructive organization of economic relations. After the copper kings of the Southwest have created and fostered the I. W. W. movement they now seek to use it as a cloak to disguise its attack upon the trade union movement.

"Approximately 12,000 miners are on strike in Arizona. The copper operators are making enormous profits on war contracts. To entrench their power they began a campaign of victimizing active union men, thus disrupting the labor movement. Economic action was necessary to maintain their rights. The men presented demands which included the right to organize and to obtain higher wages.

"The copper companies arbitrarily refused even to consider the demands of the men and at once prepared for the contest. The strik-

ers were not permitted to exercise their normal, lawful rights—to do peaceful strike duty as pickets—and were arrested on all manner of pretext."

UNIONISM DEFENDED

"My interest in the labor question comes, first of all, from my interest in history. I have traced the onward sweep of the industrial revolution, with its factory system, division of labor, steam and electricity, giant machines of iron and steel, tumultuous cities with their smoke and their whirl, and have seen it overthrow manhood, womanhood, childhood in its mad and selfish rush. I have seen it bend the pliant backs of little children in filthy mines; I have seen it chain female sufferers in underground passages. I have seen it sever limbs, put out eyes, destroy reason, steal opportunity for joy and learning, and spiritual enlargement, and seen it take life by the thousands. I have seen good men and great—Owen, Peel, Oastler, Fielding, Ashley—appeal to the conscience of the world; not to speak of Rev. Browning, Dickens and Charles Kingsley. I have seen the era of the humanitarian factory legislation—human legislation—enter. I have seen the rise and legalization of labor's own organization for the probation of its interest and have rejoiced in it and its achievements. I find myself in substantial accord with its general purposes and many of its specific aims. I bid it Godspeed in its future, and only ask it to be wise, considerate and good-natured, for its own good and for that of the community."—Dr. D. R. Anderson, Professor of History and Political Science, Richmond (Va.) College.

Life does not count by years. Some suffer a lifetime in a day and so grow old between the rising and the setting of the sun.—Augusta Evans.

William Neer, secretary-treasurer of the milk wagon drivers' union of Chicago, and president of the teamsters' joint council, is one real friend of our several unions in Chicago, and one of the most unselfish workers for the International in this country. Besides attending to the numerous duties of his office, which, indeed, are not few, he always finds time to help adjust grievances and misunderstandings that arise in other unions, or to settle disputes between our union and the Chicago teamsters' independent union. Any one not living in Chicago, or who is not connected with the General Office, can not appreciate the work carried on by Brother Neer. His unselfishness and kindness has been a great help in bringing about agreements where it would be impossible for others to do so. His honesty and fearlessness, and his determination to stick to the straight and truthful line has gained for him the respect of every teamster and chauffeur in Chicago. I wish we had a few more like him in other cities.

Word comes to us from Portland, Oregon, through the secretary-treasurer of Local Union No. 162, that the men working at our craft are waking up as to the necessity for organization. Portland is not very far away from Seattle, but conditions in the teaming business in the two cities are distinctly different. Everything in Seattle is thoroughly organized and the team owners are getting first-class rates for their hauling. In Portland everything is disorganized both in the team owners' end of the game and among the men driving teams and operating machines. Low rates for hauling prevail. The city of Portland needs organization both among the employers and employees. The two interests are working distinctly opposite each other. We hope and trust that the time has arrived for the men engaged at the teaming industry to see the necessity for organizing. There is no reason why an improvement could not obtain in the industry. The same conditions, at least, could prevail in Portland, as prevail in Seattle, Wash. To our boys in Local No. 162 we say, put your shoulders to the wheel and work day and night until you have every man driving a team or operating a machine in your organization, and we in the International office guarantee to you that inside of one year you can greatly benefit yourselves and your employers.

Official Magazine
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